

**ON THE TRUE FIRST
STAGE OF
CONSUMPTION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649370450

On the true first stage of consumption by Horace Dobell

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

HORACE DOBELL

**ON THE TRUE FIRST
STAGE OF
CONSUMPTION**

ON
THE TRUE FIRST STAGE
OF
CONSUMPTION.

LECTURES DELIVERED AT THE
ROYAL INFIRMARY FOR DISEASES OF THE CHEST.

BY
HORACE DOBELL, M.D.,
PHYSICIAN TO THE INFIRMARY.
ETC., ETC.



LONDON:
JOHN CHURCHILL & SONS, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.

MDCCLXVII.

157. n. 67.

PRINTED BY WESTGEMER, LEA AND CO.,
CIRCUS PLACE, FINCHBURY CIRCUS.

P R E F A C E.

THE following Lectures, having been considerably curtailed, when delivered at the Royal Infirmary last January, many of the medical men present were kind enough to express a desire to read those parts which want of time had obliged me to omit, and to study the whole in a connected form. I therefore promised to publish the complete Lectures for their perusal. In redeeming this promise, I have taken care to reconsider the subject to which they relate, and both to add to and take away from my original composition, wherever I thought that by so doing I could make it more worthy of the attention of my medical brethren.

I have only to add a request, that my readers will bear in mind that the disease treated of in these Lectures is Pure Tubercular Consumption, or Tuberculosis.

84, HARLEY STREET, W.
March, 1867.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Necessity for Distinguishing the "True First Stage" of Consumption—Meaning and Importance of this Stage—Nature of Tuberculosis	1—10
Diagnosis of the "True First Stage": Its Difficulty—Importance of Cultivating the Art of Medicine as well as the Science	10—14
Symptoms and Signs—Loss of Fat and Flesh—Sources of Fallacy—Loss of Power—Potential Energy—Heat—Mechanical Force—Histogenesis—Disturbed Temperature—Failure of Percussion and Auscultation in the True First Stage	14—22
Anæmia—Apepsia—Hæmoptysis	22—24
Treatment—Means of Restoring Pancreatic Function—Importance of Promptitude—Complicated Difficulties in the way of Curative Treatment	24—37
Cod-liver Oil—Pancreatic Emulsion of Solid Fat; the Position which they occupy in the Treatment of the True First Stage. Diet; Objects to be kept in view—Examples of Diets	37—43
Fresh Air and Exercise: Its Regulation—When to be Ordered, when to be Forbidden. Iron: Caution to be observed in giving it. Quinine	43—47
Climate or Change of Air; Explanation of its Action. Objects of Climatic Treatment in the True First Stage Classified and Explained	47—54
Summary of the Chief Facts on which Treatment is to be Founded	54—60

CONTENTS.

APPENDIX.

	PAGE
Heat and Mechanical Force—Explanation of Terms—Importance of Fat—Fluidity of Fat produced by Feeding upon Oil—Means which promote Accumulation of Fat in Animals—Iron in Relation to Anæmia and Consumption—Description of Premonitory Stage of Consumption—Emaciation; its Meaning—Objections to Dr. Pollock's View—Lessened Respiration; its Meaning—Objections to Dr. Edward Smith's View—Effects of Exercise on Pulsation and Respiration—Diets for Consumption—Table I., Carbo-hydrate; Table II., Albuminoid; Table III., Fluid	60—75

ON THE TRUE FIRST STAGE OF CONSUMPTION.

RECENT advances in our knowledge of the natural history and pathology of Tuberculosis have made it essential to an enlightened treatment of the disease that we should no longer delay making a radical change in the nomenclature of its several stages.

That which has heretofore been called the "Premonitory stage" ought, in my opinion, to be at once recognised as the True first stage of Consumption.*

There is no doubt that many scientific members of our profession have for some time past recognised that the commencement of Consumption precedes the formation of Tubercle. But so long as the first stage of the disease is said not to begin till the formation of Tubercle, so long will there be a misunderstanding among the majority of practical men as to the importance of any period by which this is preceded. The use of the word "premonitory" to the stage which precedes the deposit of Tubercle is the

* As I do not think we shall ever find a name better suited to the disease than the old name Consumption, I have used it throughout this lecture.